

Richmond Refinery LPS Bulletin – Environmental

Sulfur Spill at SRU #1



IMPACT ERM

Loss#: 31765

Investigation# 19063

Location: Richmond Refinery,
Cracking Division,
SRU #1 Train

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Sulfur leak to grade



Sulfur overflowing from Look Box

Tenets of Operations Violated:

Tenet #1 – Operate within design and environmental limits

Incident Description:

On the afternoon of February 19, 2012, an operator discovered a sulfur spill to secondary containment out of the 3rd seal of the SRU #1 Train condenser. The operator immediately notified the Head Operator and Shift Team Leader. The operating crew then proceeded to unplug the 2" drain line to the sulfur pit and Maintenance completed the clean up the following day.

The spill was estimated at six barrels.

Investigation Findings:

- 1) The basket inside the look box was fine earlier in shift.
- 2) The 2" drain line was blocked with sulcrete (a sulfur coke like material).
- 3) There was no routine duty to inspect the drain line under the basket to determine that it was clear.

What Worked Well:

- 1) Operations responded quickly to address the abnormal conditions by unplugging the drain line, thus minimizing the spill.

Recommendations:

- 1) Clear the #2 and #3 SRU train condenser drain lines to prevent a similar incident.
- 2) Add a Routine Duty to the IntelaTrac handhelds to clear the 3rd seal 2" drain line on all three trains.
- 3) Investigate the origin of the sulcrete found in SRU #1.

LOSS PREVENTION SELF-ASSESSMENT

BEFORE BEGINNING ANY ACTIVITY/TASK/JOB, AFTER A LOSS OR NEAR LOSS, ANY UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:



ASSESS the risk!

What could go wrong?

What is the worst thing that could happen if something does go wrong?

ANALYZE how to reduce the risk!

Do I have all the necessary Training and Knowledge to do this job properly?

Do I have all the proper Tools and Personal Protective Equipment?

ACT to ensure loss-free operations!

Take necessary Action to ensure the job is done properly!

Follow written procedures! Ask for assistance, if needed!

DO NOT PROCEED UNLESS ALL RISKS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED!

For Everyone • Every Day • All the Time

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